Profits from Sudan oilfields

222. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 76 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th February, 2003 and state the details of profits earned from Sudan oilfields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL)'s share of oil production from the Greater Nile Oil Project (GNOP), Sudan is approximately 3 million tonnes per annum. The profit, however, depends upon the international oil price movements. From 12th March, 2003, the date of successfully closing the deal for acquisition of the 25% stake in the GNOP, till 31st March, 2003, the net profit earned by OVL from the Sudan project was about US $ 11.5 million (Rs. 54 crores, approx.)

ONGC's new retail outlets

223. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given permission to ONGC to open 500 retail outlets in the country;

(b) if so, the break-up of the outlets proposed to be set up in various States of the country, State-wise; and

(c) by when these are going to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Government have given permission to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for setting up of 600 Retail Outlets (ROs) in May, 2002 and for 5000 retail outlets in May, 2003.

(b) The break-up of the outlets proposed to be set up in various States of the country, State-wise is as under:

Name of State	No. of ROs
Andhra pradesh	100
Tamil Nadu	10
Rajasthan	12
Uttaranchal	12